



THE PHANTOM™

The Hunt



*Ben Raab
Lou Manna*

THE PHANTOM

The Hunt

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MARITIME
AUTHORITIES REMAIN
BAFFLED BY THE MYSTERIOUS
DISAPPEARANCE OF A FOURTH
SHIP OFF THE BANGALLA
COAST IN AS MANY
WEEKS...

THEIR
EFFORTS TO
LOCATE THE MISSING
VESSELS STYMIED
BY TROPICAL
STORMS...

...THE
CHANCE OF
ANYONE SURVIVING
AT SEA REMAINS
SLIM AT BEST...

<PERHAPS WE
SHOULD TURN BACK,
CAPTAIN?> *

<AND
SACRIFICE
OUR FORTUNES
BECAUSE OF A
LITTLE BAD
WEATHER?>

<PLEASE...>

<THIS
DELIVERY WILL
MAKE US ALL
KINGS!>

* TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH.





< THE QUESTION
IS *WHEN*... >

ATTENTION
JUNGLE
PATROL!

THIS IS
AN URGENT
MESSAGE
FOR COLONEL
WORUBH...

AND
WHAT WOULD
THAT MESSAGE
BE, SEÑOR?

CLK

ch-chk



THAT
A BUNCH OF
LOWLIFE *JEWEL*
THIEVES ARE ABOUT
TO BE DELIVERED TO
THEIR FRONT
DOOR.

FUNNY.
BUT FROM
WHERE I AM
STANDING, YOU ARE
IN NO POSITION TO
MAKE SUCH A
DELIVERY.



HARD
OR EASY,
IT IS YOUR
CHOICE.

HOW ABOUT
NEITHER?

LO SIENTO
MUCHO...BUT
THAT IS NOT
AN OPTION.



YOU HAVE
DISRUPTED MY
SCHEDULE.

COST ME
HUNDREDS
OF THOUSANDS
OF DOLLARS.

FOR THAT
YOU MUST
PAY.



KRAK



IT'S AN S-O-S FROM A SPANISH FREIGHTER.

AND A MESSAGE.

THEY'RE RUNNING A SHIPMENT OF STOLEN DIAMONDS!

WHAT?! THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS TELLING YOU ALL THIS?!

NO, NOT THE CAPTAIN -

THE MYSTERIOUS COMMANDER? ON THE RADIO? SENDING MORSE CODE?

YESSIR, COLONEL WORUBU, SIR!

IMPOSSIBLE. THE COMMANDER ONLY CONTACTS THE JUNGLE PATROL VIA HIS SECRET VAULT.

BUT I'VE GOT THE MESSAGE TRANSCRIPTION RIGHT HERE, SIR!

HE'S ABOARD THE EL CORDOYES!

THOSE SLIPPERY BASTARDS HAVE ELUDED OUR GRASP FOR MONTHS...

HMMN. LIEUTENANT?

YESSIR, COLONEL?

GET ME THE COAST GUARD.



¡SEÑOR FANTASMA!

WELL, THIS IS ANOTHER FINE MESS...

MY FIRST OFFICER TELLS ME YOU ARE AN IMMORTAL JUNGLE LEGEND.

THE GHOST WHO PROTECTS THE DEEP WOODS...

I BELIEVE IN NEITHER LEGENDS NOR GHOSTS.

SUCH SUPERSTITIONS ARE FOR CHILDREN.



BEEN DOING IT FOR FIVE HUNDRED YEARS NOW.

I SUPPOSE THAT QUALIFIES ME FOR 'LEGEND' STATUS.

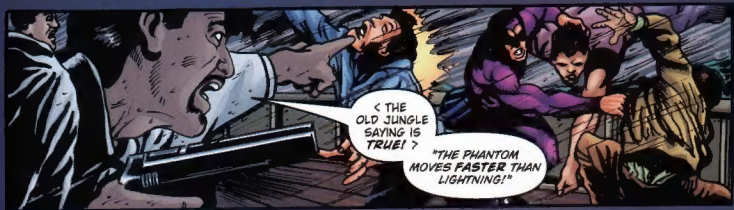
I BELIEVE YOU CAN DIE.

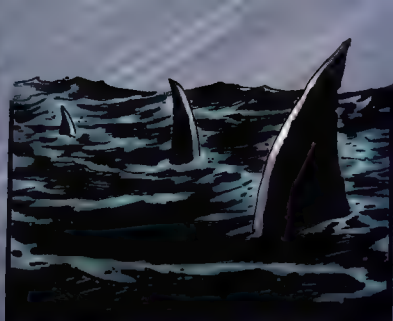
I WILL PROVE IT.

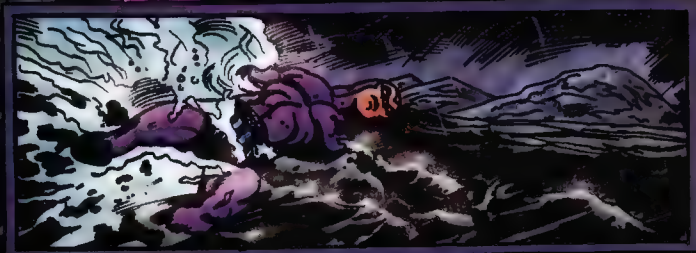
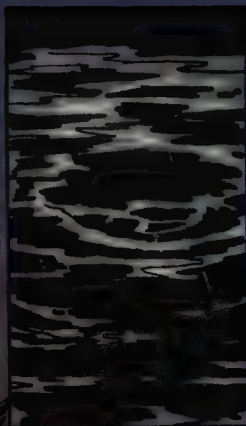
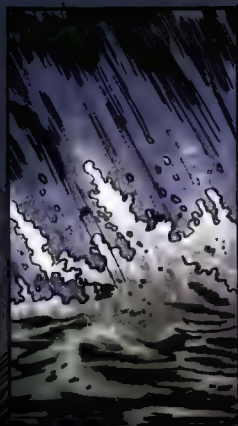
¡FUEGO!

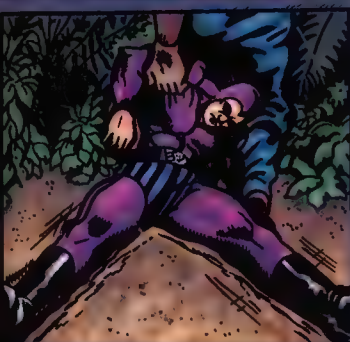
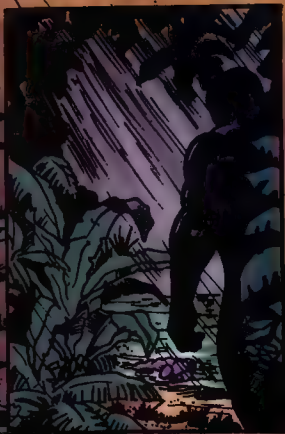














WHAT DO
YOU MEAN THE
EL CORDOBÉS
IS GONE?

THIS
IS ITS LAST
KNOWN POSITION.
IT SHOULD BE HERE
SOMEWHERE.

ALL
DUE RESPECT,
COLONEL. RADAR
DOESN'T LIE.

AND I
DON'T KNOW OF
ANY SEA VESSELS
THAT HAVE **STEALTH**
TECHNOLOGY...

JUST
KEEP AN EYE
ON THOSE SCOPES,
SAILOR. THAT SHIP IS
BOUND TO TURN UP
SOMETIME.

AYE,
CAPTAIN.

YOU'RE
CERTAIN YOUR
COMMANDER WAS
ABOARD?

THE
MESSAGE
COULD HAVE
COME FROM
NO OTHER
MAN.

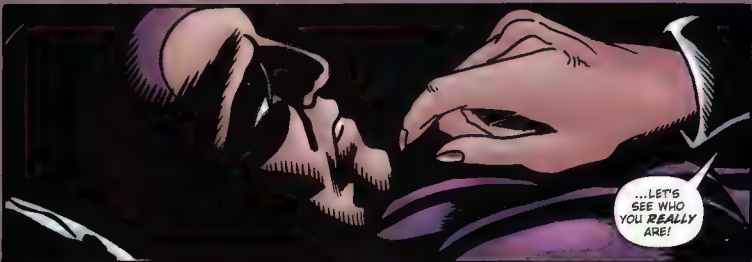
THEN I
PROMISE YOU,
OLD FRIEND.
WE **WILL**
FIND IT.

CAPTAIN
KATANGA!

COLONEL
WORUBU!

WE
FOUND
IT!

WELL,
WHAT'S LEFT
OF IT...





UH, NO...
SO CAN YOU
STOP BREAKING
MY WRIST,
PLEASE?



SORRY.

WHERE
AM I?

WHAT?
NO 'THANKS
FOR SAVING MY
LIFE?

YOU'RE A
DOCTOR.

THAT
I AM.

MY NAME'S
PAIGE
ALEXANDER.

AND
THIS LITTLE
GUY WOULD'VE
PARALYZED YOUR
ENTIRE LEFT SIDE
COMPLETELY IF NOT
FOR MY SHEER
GENIUS...

THANKS.

DON'T
MENTION IT.
SO TELL ME...
WHAT'S THE DEAL
WITH THE
MASK?

WHY
CAN'T I
SEE YOUR
FACE?

"WHOEVER
WHO SEES
THE PHANTOM'S
UNMASKED FACE
SHALL SUFFER
A TERRIBLE
DEATH."

YOU'RE
KIDDING,
RIGHT?

AND YOU'RE
THE PHANTOM.

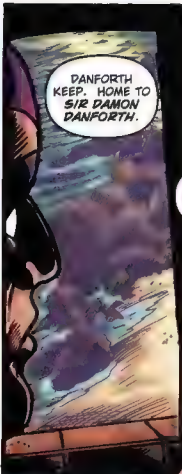
THE ONE
AND ONLY.

NOPE.
OLD JUNGLE
SAYING.

O-KAARY...



WHAT IS THIS PLACE?



DANFORTH
KEEP. HOME TO
SIR DAMON
DANFORTH.



I MEAN
HIS **GRANDSON**.
SIR DAMON III.

THE
HUNTER?
I THOUGHT HE
DIED ON SAFARI
IN BANGALLA
DECADES
AGO.



WHOA!
SIR DAMON,
I PRESUME...?

OH, NO.
THIS IS SIR
DAMON'S
ASSISTANT.

BORIS.



IF YOU
DON'T MIND,
BORIS WILL ESCORT
YOU TO OUR
HOST.

WITH
WHAT?



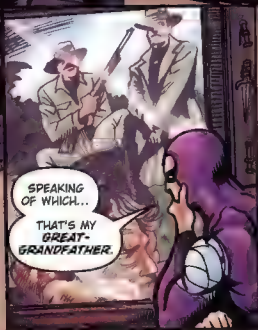
OUR OTHER
GUESTS REQUIRE
MY ATTENTION AT
THE MOMENT.

'OTHER'
GUESTS...?



'ASSISTANT',
HUH?



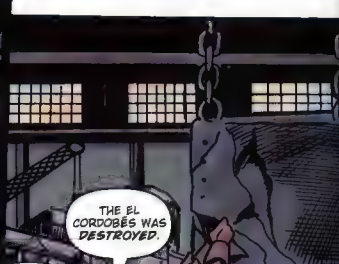








THIS WAS
NO ORDINARY
SHIPWRECK...



THE EL
CORDOBÉS WAS
DESTROYED.



BY WHO?

GOT ME.
BEST GUESS,
I'D SAY SOME
KIND OF SUB-
MARINE.



SEE
HOW THE
HULL'S BEEN
CHARRED?

ROCKS
DON'T LEAVE
THAT KIND OF
RESIDUE.



BUT TORPEDOES DO.

I'VE
TRIANGULATED
ALL THE POSSIBLE
ORIGIN POINTS, BUT IF
IT'S A SUB WE'RE
DEALING WITH, IT'D BE
LONG GONE
BY NOW.



UNLESS THE
MISSILE WAS
LAUNCHED FROM
A STATIONARY
POSITION...



A RADIO
TOWER...



BUT NO
DOCKS.

HMNN...



I HOPE
YOUR APPETITE
IS AS *INSATIABLE*
AS YOUR CURIOSITY,
PHANTOM...



YOU'LL
FIND OUR
ISLAND
IS FULL OF
TEMPTATIONS...



HOO-BOY.



MAGNIFICENT,
ISN'T IT?

HOW THE
NIGHT LITTERLY
DEVOURS THE DAY
UNTIL THE COMING
OF A NEW MORN.
NEW PREY...

ONE
WAY OF
LOOKING AT IT,
I SUPPOSE



TELL ME,
PHANTOM...

HAVE
YOU ANY
IDEA HOW MUCH
THE LIFE OF THE
BIG GAME HUNTER
HAS *CHANGED*
IN RECENT
YEARS?

THE OBSTACLES
WE MUST OVERCOME
IN ORDER TO KEEP
OUR ANIMAL INSTINCTS
SHARP?



ENDANGERED
SPECIES LISTS...

BLEEDING HEART
LIBERALS...

THEY'LL
BE THE DEATH
OF THE MODERN
SPORTSMAN,
MARK MY
WORDS.



YOU
CERTAINLY
ARE PASSIONATE
ABOUT YOUR HOBBY,
SIR DAMON.

OBSESSED,
I'D SAY.





ADMIT IT, DANFORTH'S LOST HIS MIND.

YEAH. A RIFLE SCOPE...

HE SEES THE WORLD THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS THAN WE DO.



YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING HOW A 'GAL LIKE ME' GOT HOOKED UP WITH A 'GUY LIKE THAT'?

THE THOUGHT HAD CROSSED MY MIND.

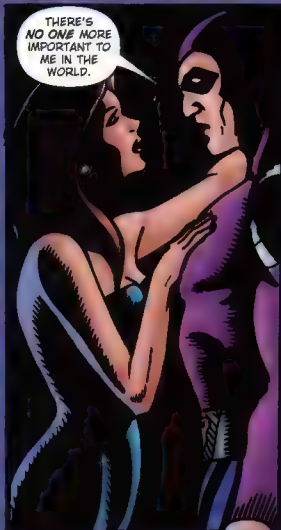
WELL... LET'S JUST SAY MY ARRIVAL HERE WAS RATHER UNEXPECTED...



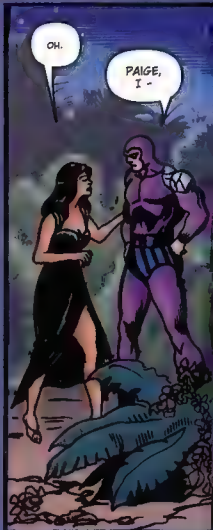
LIKE WHEN YOU REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS AND CALLED OUT A WOMAN'S NAME.

'DIANA' WAS IT?

MUST BE A SPECIAL GIRL IF SHE'S THE VERY FIRST THOUGHT THAT POPPED INTO YOUR HEAD AFTER NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE...



THERE'S NO ONE MORE IMPORTANT TO ME IN THE WORLD.



OH.

PAIGE, I -



STAY
HERE, DOCTOR!
I'LL BE RIGHT
BACK!

PHANTOM,
WAIT!

CHE
HK



I -
I CAN'T
LET Y-YOU
GO...

PAIGE,
THIS ISN'T
THE TIME FOR
ADOLESCENT
CRUSHES!

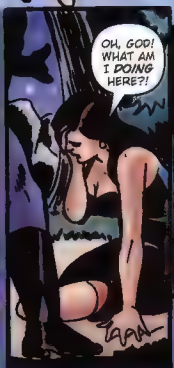
SOMEONE'S
BEEN SHOT!

BESIDES -



"NEVER
POINT A GUN
AT THE
PHANTOM!"

UNLESS YOU'RE
PLANNING ON
USING IT...



OH, GOD!
WHAT AM
I DOING
HERE?!



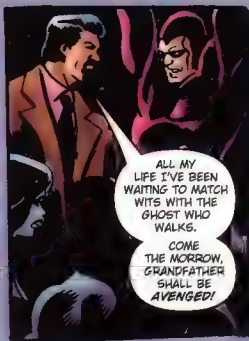
THIS
ISN'T ME!
I SWEAR!

I'M NOT
THE PERSON
YOU THINK
I AM!

YOU'RE IN
OVER YOUR
HEAD.

I CAN
HELP YOU.
BUT NOT UNLESS
YOU TELL ME
WHAT'S
GOING --







YOUR GRANDFATHER'S ISN'T THE ONLY SOUL SEEKING VENGEANCE, DANFORTH.

YOU DESTROYED THOSE SHIPS. WITH THAT **TORPEDO LAUNCHER** YOU'VE GOT SET UP ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

THAT'S WHERE YOUR OTHER 'GUESTS' COME FROM.

THAT'S HOW YOU CREATE YOUR LITTLE 'CHALLENGES'.

TELL ME SOMETHING 'SIR' DAMON...

HAVE THE ENDANGERED SPECIES AND BLEEDING HEART LIBERALS LEFT YOU SO **TOOTHLESS** THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO IS KILL **WOUNDED** PEOPLE FOR SPORT?

YOU'RE A **DISGRACE** TO YOUR FAMILY.

BRAVO, PHANTOM!

A KEEN AND INCISIVE ANALYSIS!

BUT MY GUILT IS A **SHARED** COMPLICITY...

...EH, DOCTOR ALEXANDER?

SLEEP WELL, PHANTOM.

YOU DIE AT DAWN.



YOU SWORE
AN OATH TO
PROTECT LIFE,
DOCTOR.

THEY WEREN'T
ALL INNOCENT...

HOW COULD
YOU CONDEMN
INNOCENT PEOPLE
TO DEATH?

THAT'S NOT
THE POINT.
AND YOU
KNOW IT.



LOOK,
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHAT HAPPENED!
IT'S NOT LIKE
I HAD A
CHOICE!

YOU
ALWAYS
HAVE A
CHOICE.

I AM
THE SOLE
SURVIVOR OF
THAT FIRST SHIP
DANFORTH
SANK.

IF ONLY
I HAD DIED
WITH THE
OTHERS...

BEING
A DOCTOR,
I UNFORTUNATELY
POSSESSED A USEFUL
SKILL THAT COULD
KEEP HIS SICK,
TWISTED GAMES
GOING.

WELL,
I DIDN'T,
OKAY?! NOT IF
I WANTED TO
LIVE...



SO LONG
AS I NURSED THE
WOUNDED FROM
HIS ATTACKS BACK
TO HEALTH, I'D BE
EXEMPT FROM
THE HUNT.

IN ORDER
TO SAVE MY
LIFE...
...I HAD
TO SELL MY
SOUL.

MAYBE
IT'S NOT
TOO LATE TO
SAVE IT...



LOOK
IF YOU'RE
GOING TO
GLOAT --

ON THE
CONTRARY.

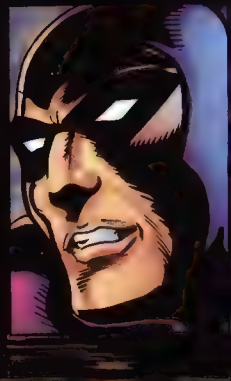
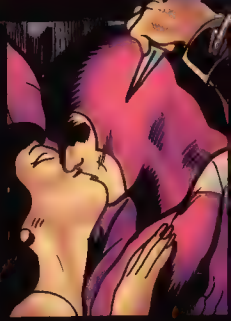


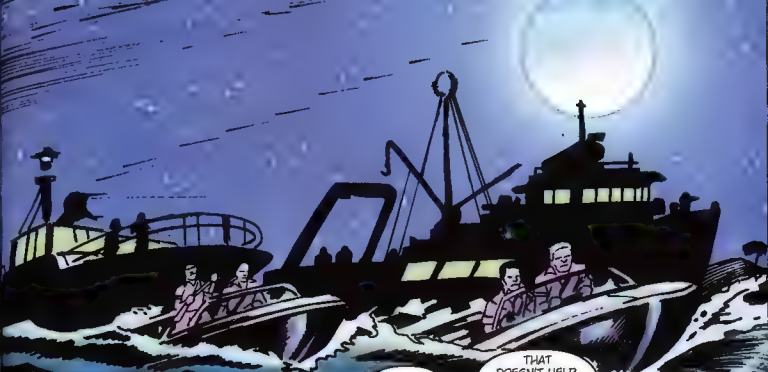
THIS
IS FOR YOUR
DIANA.

YOU'RE
HELPING ME?
WHY?

Y'KNOW,
PHANTOM...

YOU'RE
THE KIND
OF MAN EVERY
GIRL DREAMS
ABOUT.





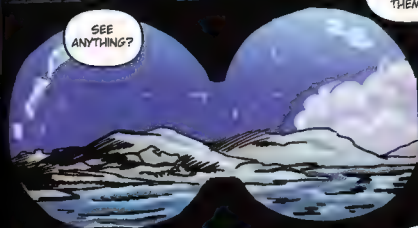
SEE
ANYTHING?

ISLANDS.
DOZENS OF
THEM.

THAT
DOESN'T HELP,
COLONEL. YOUR
COMMANDER MIGHT
BE ON ANY
OF THEM.

IF HE
ISN'T ALREADY
DEAD...

I CANNOT
ACCEPT
THAT.



THOUGH
HIS IDENTITY IS
SHROUDED IN SECRECY,
THE COMMANDER IS THE
HEART AND SOUL
OF THE JUNGLE
PATROL.

THE ROCK
UPON WHICH
OUR UNIT WAS
FOUNDED.

WITHOUT
HIM, WE ARE
NOTHING.



ALIVE
OR DEAD,
I MUST FIND
HIM...

YOU
HAVE UNTIL
MORNING
BEFORE I TURN
MY FLEET
AROUND.





GOING
SOMEWHERE,
PHANTOM?

THAT'S
NOT VERY
SPORTING.
I EXPECTED
BETTER OF
YOU.



THIS ONE,
HOWEVER...

I KNEW
SHE'D BREAK.

TIME
TO PUT THE
TRAITOROUS
LITTLE BITCH
DOWN.



NO!
WAIT!

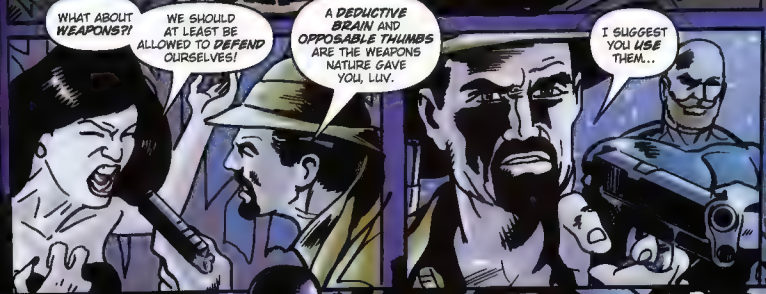
LET HER
JOIN THE HUNT.
WITH ME.

AND I
SHOULD
REWARD HER
TREACHERY WITH
CLEMENCY
BECAUSE...?



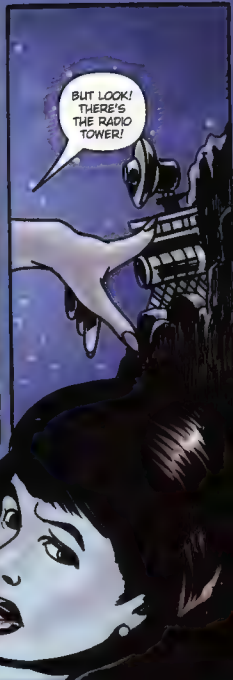
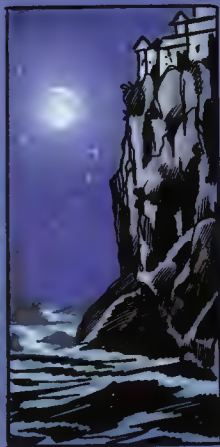
CONSIDER
IT THE LAST
REQUEST OF
A DYING
MAN...















PHANTOM!



WHEW.

I'VE GOTTA GET TO THAT TOWER AND CONTACT THE AUTHORITIES.

NO, WE'RE NOT SPLITTING UP.

I'LL DO IT. YOU TAKE OUT DANFORTH.

WE HAVE TO. IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO THROW SIR DAMON OFF OUR TRAIL.

YOU SAID THERE MIGHT STILL BE A CHANCE TO SAVE MY SOUL. WELL, THIS IS IT.

THIS IS MY PENANCE...



JUST...KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN.

I WILL. AND I WON'T DISAPPOINT YOU AGAIN.



I SWEAR ON MY LIFE.



I'M SORRY,
OLD FRIEND. THERE
ARE JUST TOO
MANY ISLANDS
TO SEARCH.

I'VE
INDULGED
YOU THIS FAR.
BUT I WON'T
WASTE THE COAST
GUARD'S TIME ON
A WILD GOOSE
CHASE ANY
LONGER.



WE
DON'T HAVE
TO, CAPTAIN!
LOOK!

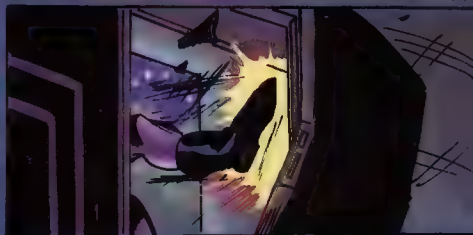
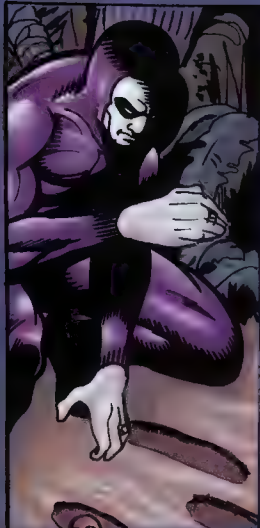
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT DID YOU
FIND?



ONE SET OF
COORDINATES.
SIGNED, SEALED AND
DELIVERED!



PUT
THAT IN
YOUR PIPE AND
SMOKE IT,
SIR -

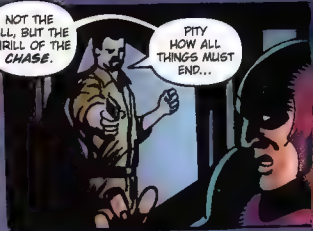


NOT THE
KILL, BUT THE
THRILL OF THE
CHASE.

PITY
HOW ALL
THINGS MUST
END...

POWER
AND CONTROL,
MY FRIEND.

THAT IS WHAT
HUNTING IS
ALL ABOUT...



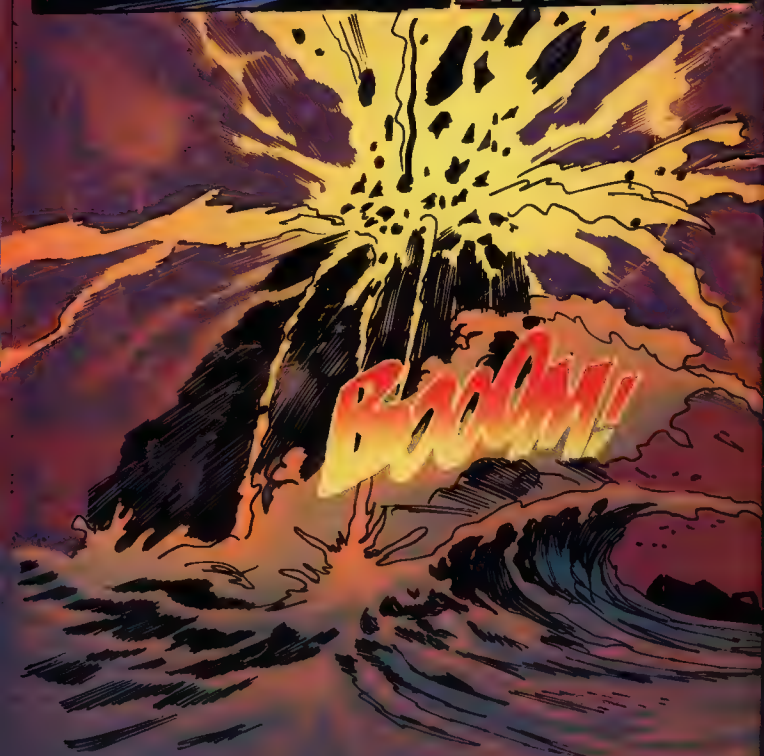


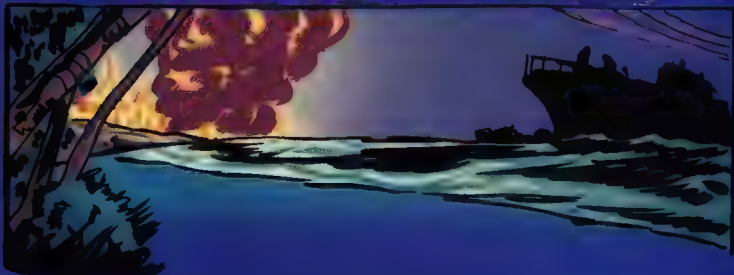
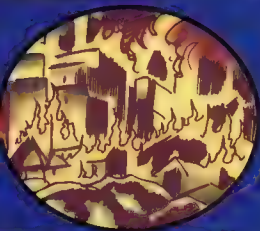
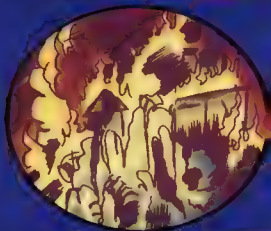




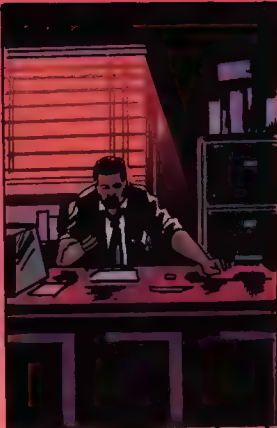








TWO WEEKS LATER.



COLONEL
WORUBU,
SIR...?

SORRY
TO DISTURB
YOU, BUT THERE'S
SOMETHING
YOU'LL WANT
TO SEE.



I ASSUME
THAT MEANS
WHAT I THINK IT
MEANS...

YES
IT DOES,
LIEUTENANT.

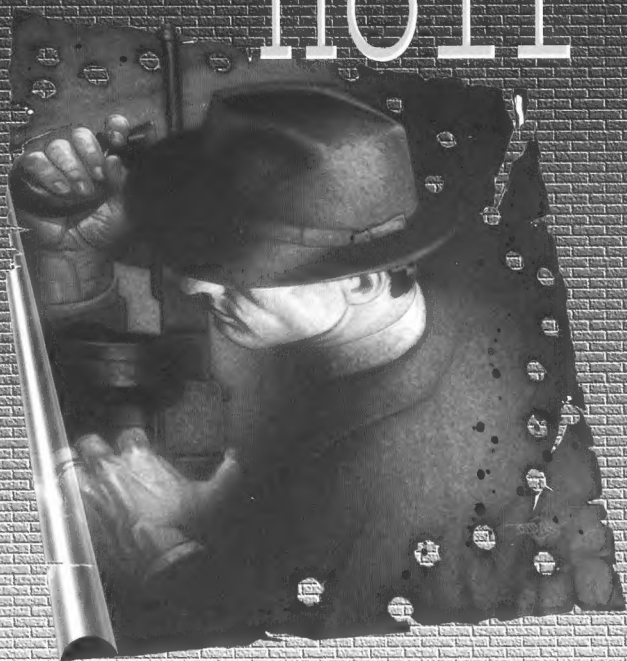


YES IT
DOES...

THE END.



MOONSTONE noir



~Boston Blackie

~Bulldog Drummond

~The Hat Squad

~Jack Hagee, Private Eye

~Johnny Dollar

~Mysterious Traveler

Find out if crime pays...

See what's new under the moon...



VAMPIRE
THE MASQUERADE



WEREWOLF
THE APOCALYPSE



KOLCHAK:
The Night Stalker



Legacy of the
INVISIBLE
MAN



MOONSTONE
MONSTERS



MOONSTONE
NOIR

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¡SEROR FANTASMA!

MY FIRST OFFICER TELLS ME YOU ARE AN IMMORTAL JUNGLE LEGEND.

THE GHOST WHO PROTECTS THE DEEP WOODS...

I BELIEVE IN NEITHER LEGENDS NOR GHOSTS.

SUCH SUPERSTITIONS ARE FOR CHILDREN.

YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TO TRY, AMIGO.

YOU MAY FIRE WHEN READY...

LINO... DOS... TRES...

BEEN DOING IT FOR FIVE HUNDRED YEARS NOW.

I SUPPOSE THAT QUALIFIES ME FOR 'LEGEND' STATUS.

I BELIEVE YOU CAN DIE.

I WILL PROVE IT.

¡PUEGO!

